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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 7

Application Number	09/443,233
Filing Date	11/18/1999
First Named Inventor	John A. Heigenberg
Art Unit	3677
Examiner Name	Estremsky, Gary Wayne
Attorney Docket No.	TN167

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

Fee Transmittal Form
 Fee Attached

Amendment/Reply
 After Final
 Affidavits/Declaration(s)

Extension of Time Request

Express Abandonment Request

Information Disclosure Statement

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application

Response to Missing Parts under
37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Drawing(s)
 Licensing-related Papers
 Petition
 Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application
 Power of Attorney, Revocation,
Change of Correspondence
Address
 Terminal Disclaimer
 Request for Refund
 CD, Number of CD(s) _____

After Allowance Communication
to Group
 Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences
 Appeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply
Brief)
 Proprietary Information
 Status Letter
 Other Enclosure(s) (please
identify below):

Return Receipt Postcard

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APR 09 2004

GROUP 3600**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual	Ellen E. Fielitz	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	54,746
Signature	<i>Ellen E. Fielitz</i>		
Date	April 5, 2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION / MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date:

April 5, 2004

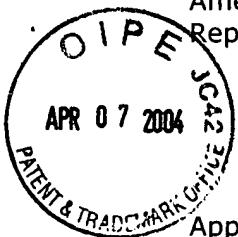
Name (Print/Type)	Ellen E. Fielitz		
Signature	<i>Ellen E. Fielitz</i>	Date	April 5, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

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Appn. No.: 09/443,233
Amendment Dated April 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 7, 2004

TN167



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appn. No: 09/443,233
Applicants: John A. Helgenberg et al.
Filed: 11/18/1999
Title: LATCHING SYSTEM
T.C./A.U.: 3677
Examiner: Estremsky, Gary Wayne
Confirmation No.: 6933
Docket No.: TN167

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Expedited Procedure

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Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 7, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.